

*To: Doug O'Dridge
or other responsible
person*

FROM:

WILLIAM D. PAYNE

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1949
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FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 1968

William D. Payne, winner of the 1967 Jaycees Distinguished Service Award and recipient of the Leaguers Merit Award today strongly endorsed the recommendations of the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders and the Governor's Select Commission on Civil Disorder.

Mr. Payne, long active in community affairs, stated "it is time the entire population recognized the need to come to grips with the very serious problems we face and to which the commission addressed themselves". Payne said the reports were candid and honest and reflected the conscientious efforts by the commissioners to objectively identify the grave social problems in our communities.

The commissioners, particularly those who served on the New Jersey body, are to be commended for their service to the people of our State.

"I take personal exception to the story that appeared in the February 18, 1968 issue of the Sunday Star Ledger," said Payne. "It was critical of the New Jersey commission report and included my name among those who were not called to testify before commission. The article implied that I was critical of the report." This was an erroneous impression and I would like to correct that impression by disassociating myself from the report's critics.

I intend to continue working toward the implementation of the recommendations.